

Remarks

Preliminary to the first response in the present application, claim 12 has been amended. Claims 1-16 are now pending. The Applicant believes that the changes to the claims do not involve any new matter or objectionable changes.

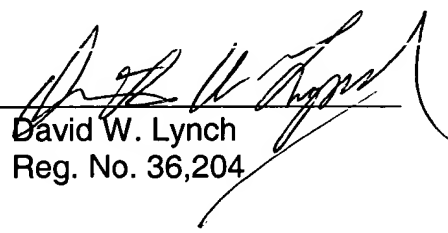
Further, Applicant is submitting herewith new Figs. 4a, 4b, 5a and 5b. New Figs. 5a and 5b are supported, for example, by page 7, lines 6-22 and, at least, claims 1-5. Figs. 4a and 4b now includes the legend " $S_2 > S_1$ " replacing " $t_1 = t_2$ " and " $S_1 = S_2$ ", respectively. Figs. 5a and 5b are new. Applicant respectfully submits that the changes to Figs. 4a and 4b, and new Figs. 5a and 5b do not include new matter.

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, consideration of this application and its allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ALTERA LAW GROUP, LLC
10749 Bren Road East, Opus 2
Minnetonka, MN 55343-9056
952-912-0539

By: _____


David W. Lynch
Reg. No. 36,204

DWL/tjs